

On page 41, line 25, following "control and data over Ethernet", please delete "32" and insert therefor - - 41 - -.

In the Drawings

Please amend Figures 9a, 16c, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 26, 35, and 55 as shown in red in the attached drawings.

**REMARKS**

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter the amendments set forth above prior to examining the above-referenced application.

Applicant amends the specification and Figures 9a, 16c, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 26, 35, and 55 to correct typographical errors. Specifically, reference numeral 32 is a duplicate. Therefore applicant replaces reference numeral 32 with reference numeral 41 in both the specification and Figures 9a, 16c, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, and 26. Applicant adds reference numeral 41 to the connection between NMS 60 and the network device 540 in Figure 35. Reference numeral 838 is added to the input marked "Alt. Input from other EX CTS" in Figure 55. Both reference numeral 41 and reference numeral 838 are referred to in the specification and used in other figures to designate the same part of the invention. No new matter is added by these amendments.

In addition, Applicant amends Figure 55 to remove an extraneous line section to indicate the correct connection of the *output* 770 to the Alt. *output* to other EX CTS. Support for this amendment can be found throughout the specification, for example, on page 165, lines 29-31, and page 166, line 1. In particular, the specification recites that "the output 770 (marked "Alt. Output to other EX CTS") of timing module 76 may be provided to the other

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EX CTS and received as input 838 (marked "Alt. Input from other EX CTS"). Thus, no new matter is added by this amendment.

For the Examiner's convenience, Applicant encloses a copy of page 41 of the specification in which the above corrections are indicated in red.

The Examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned Attorney for Applicant in the event that such communication is deemed to expedite prosecution of this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

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FIG. 9a

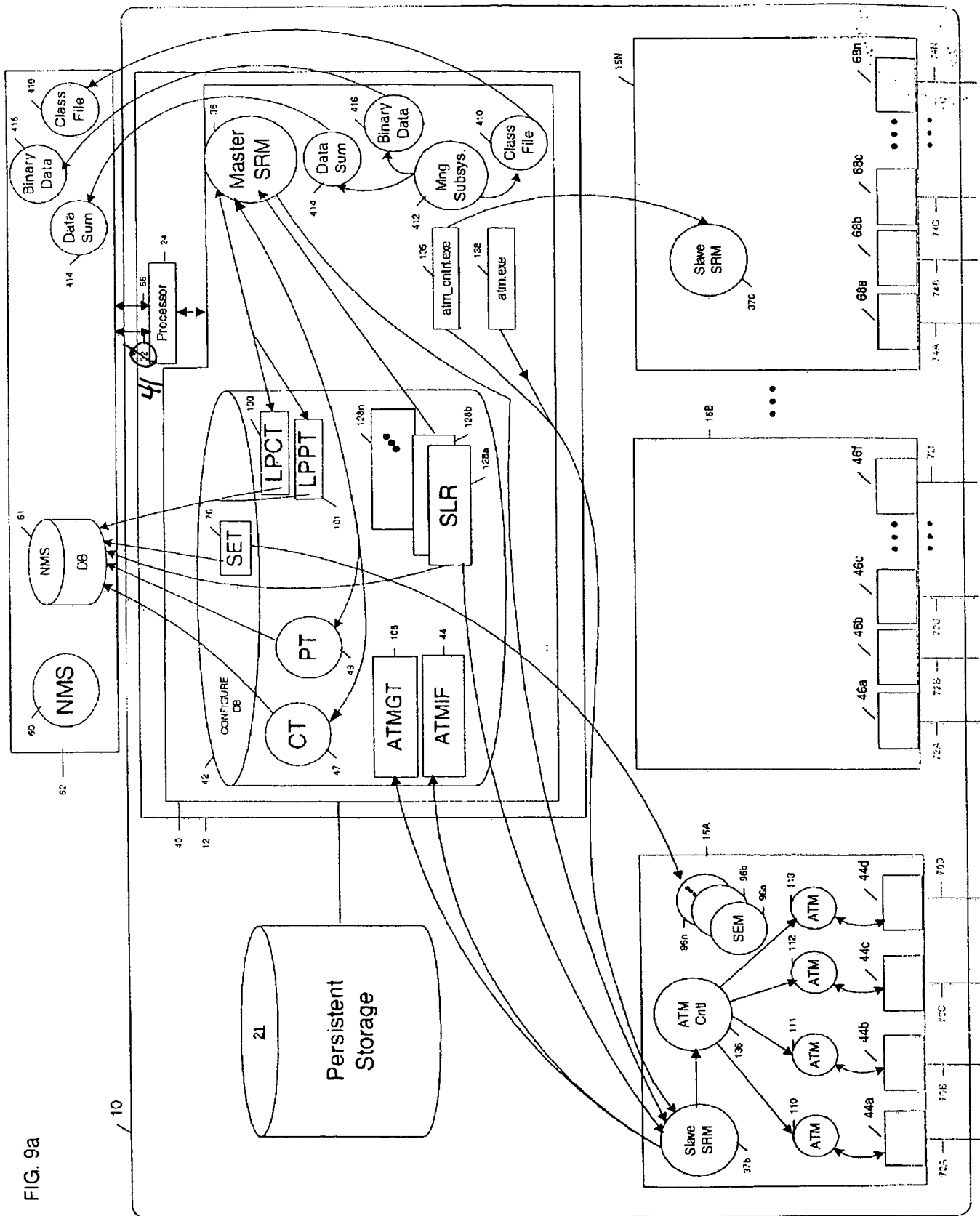


FIG. 16c

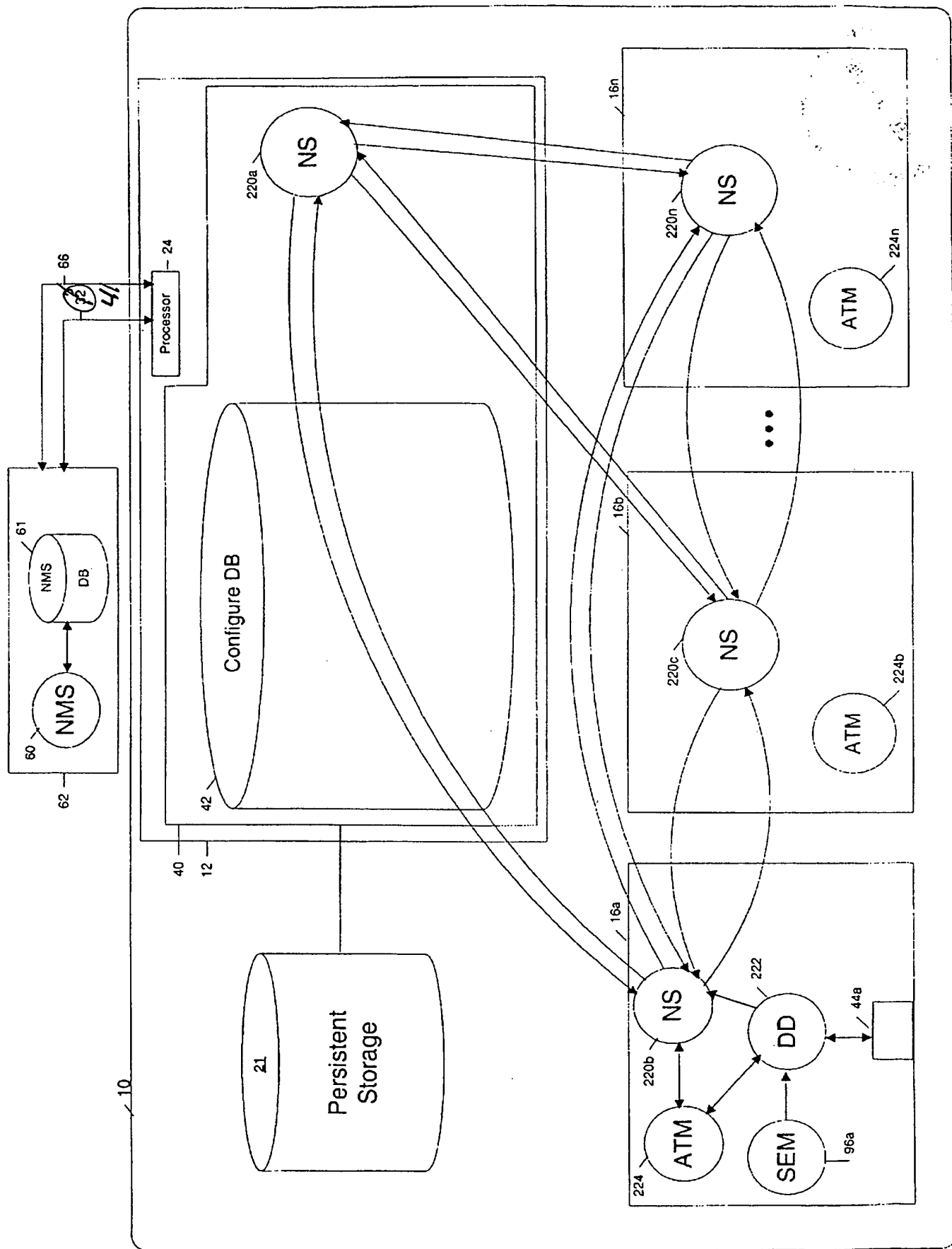


FIG. 17

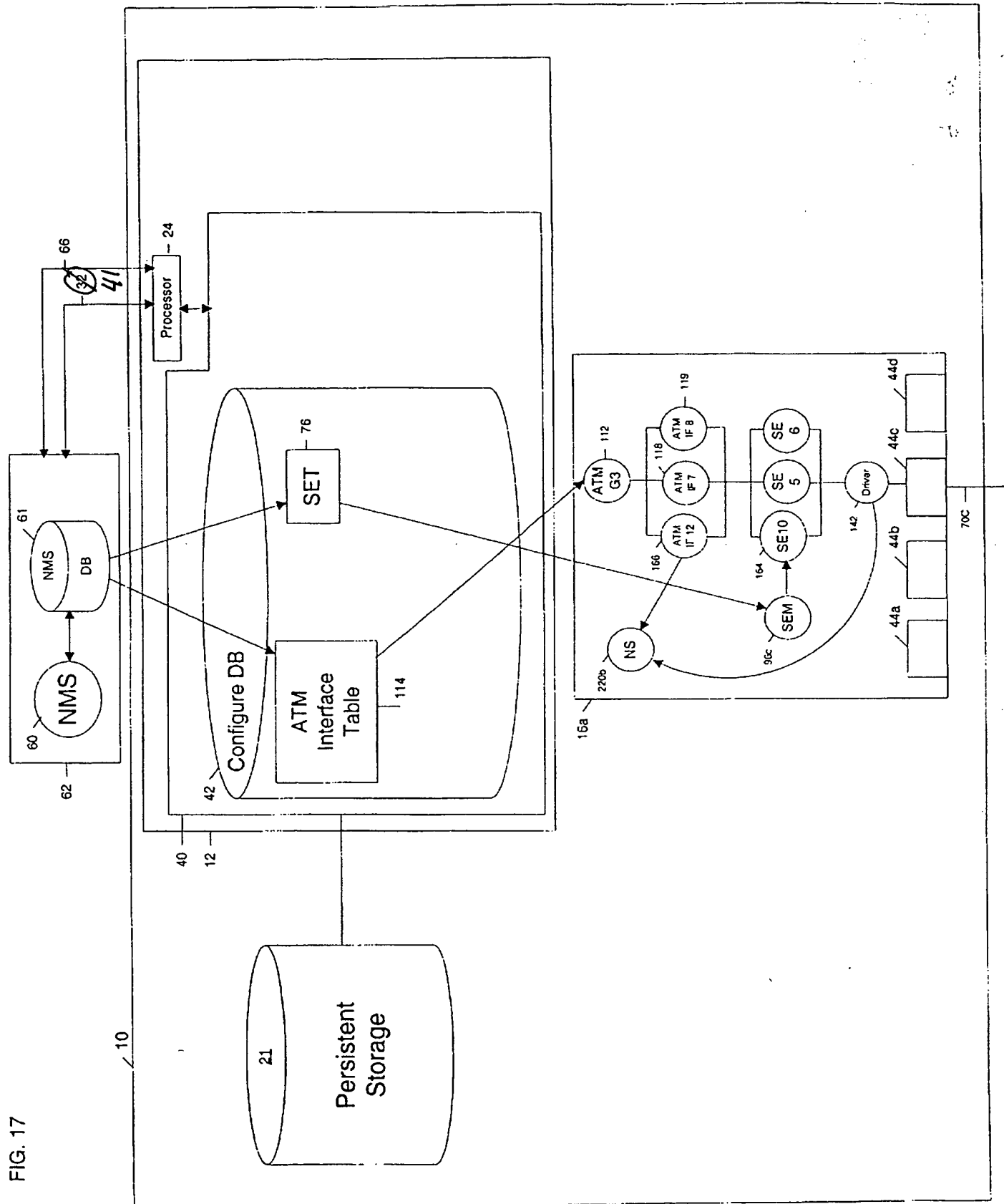


FIG. 18

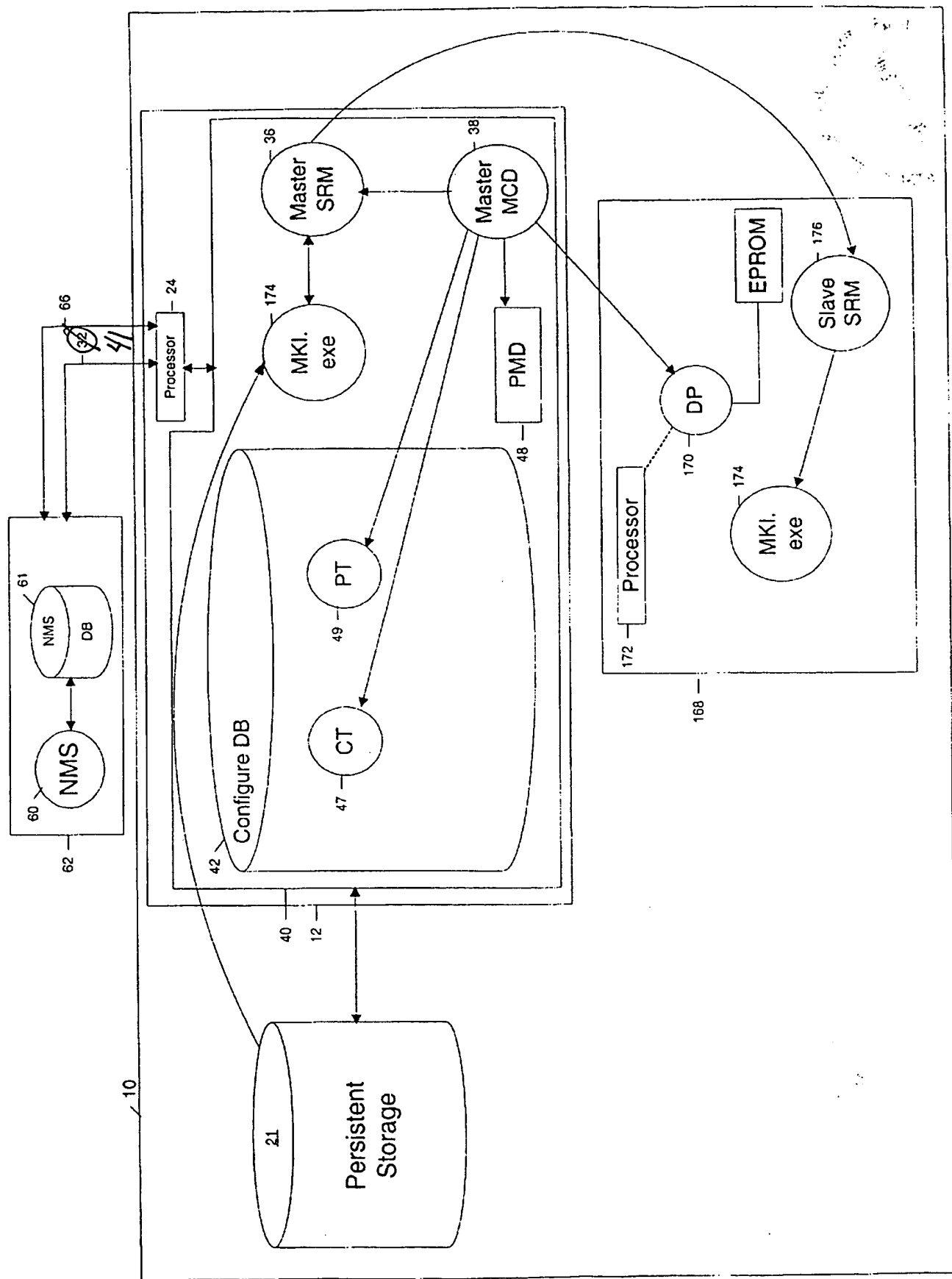


FIG. 19

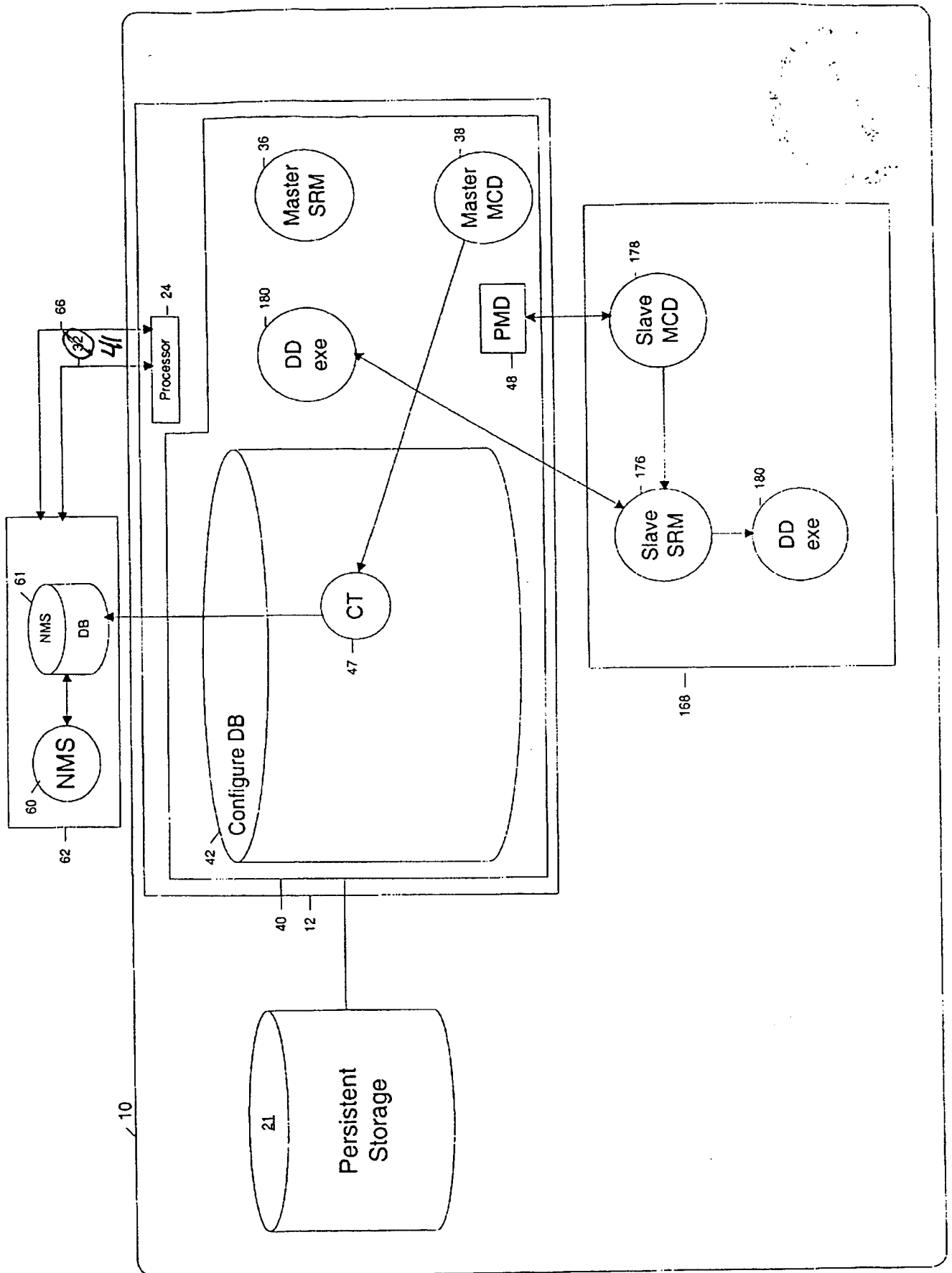


FIG. 20

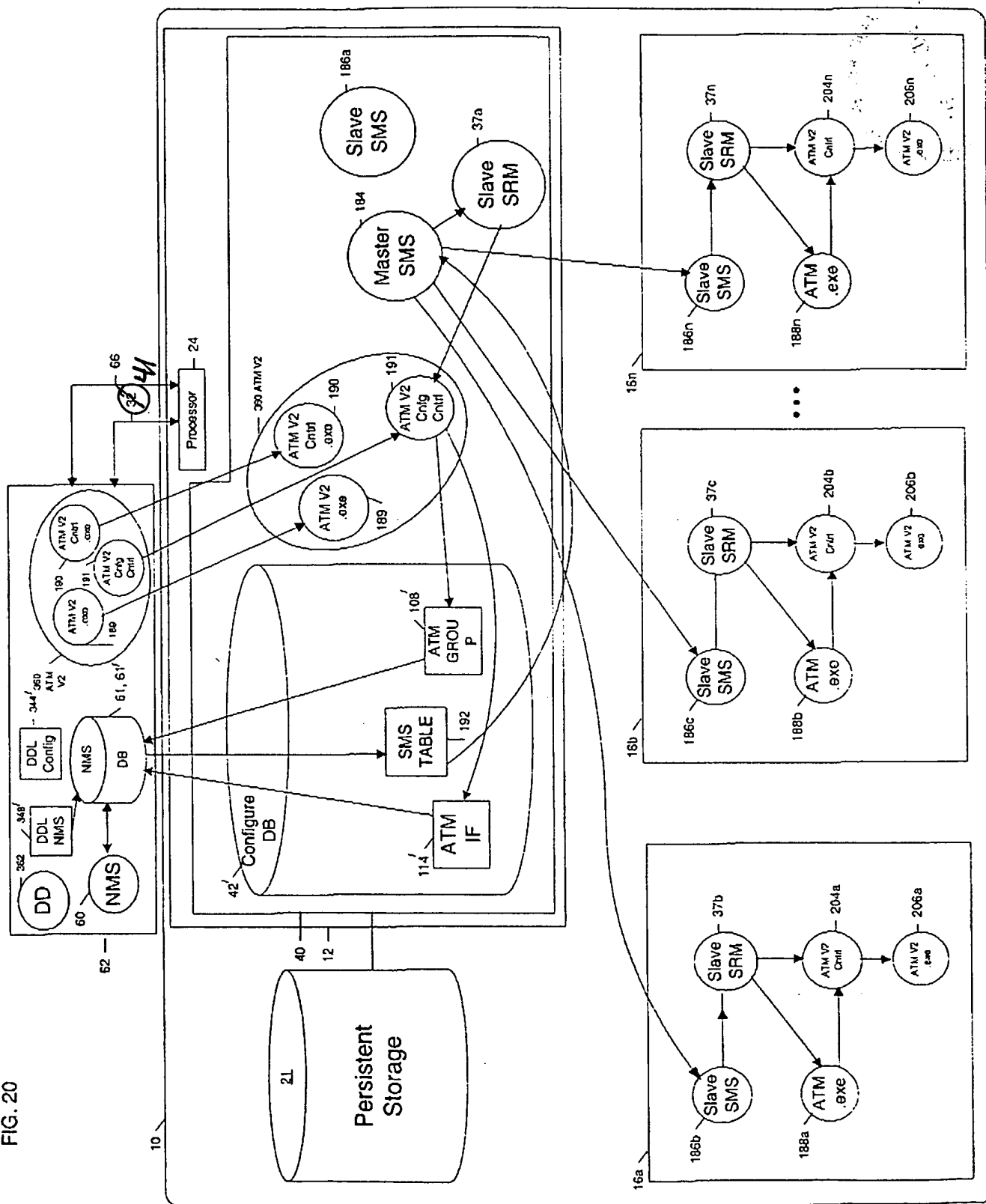




FIG. 23

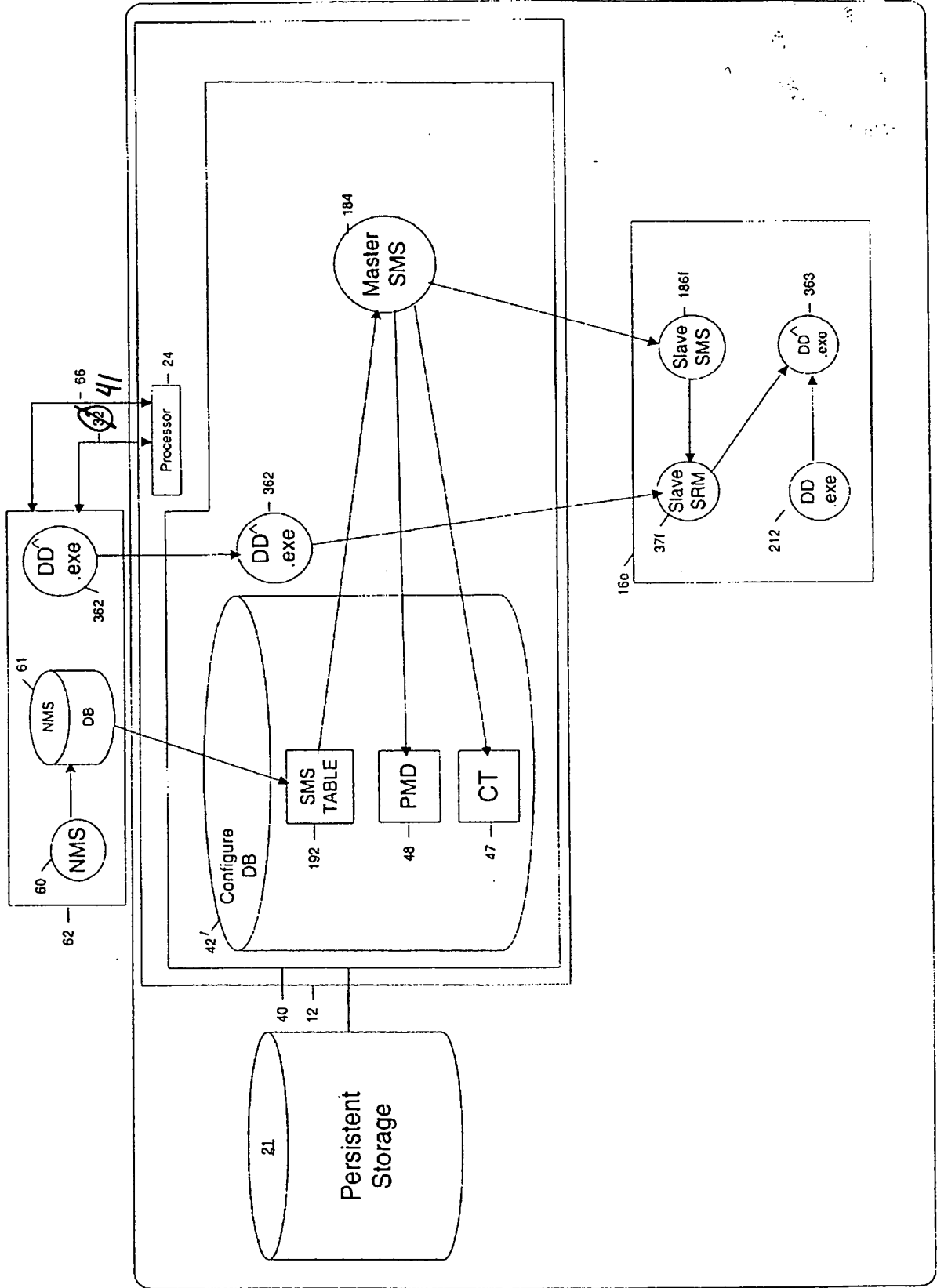
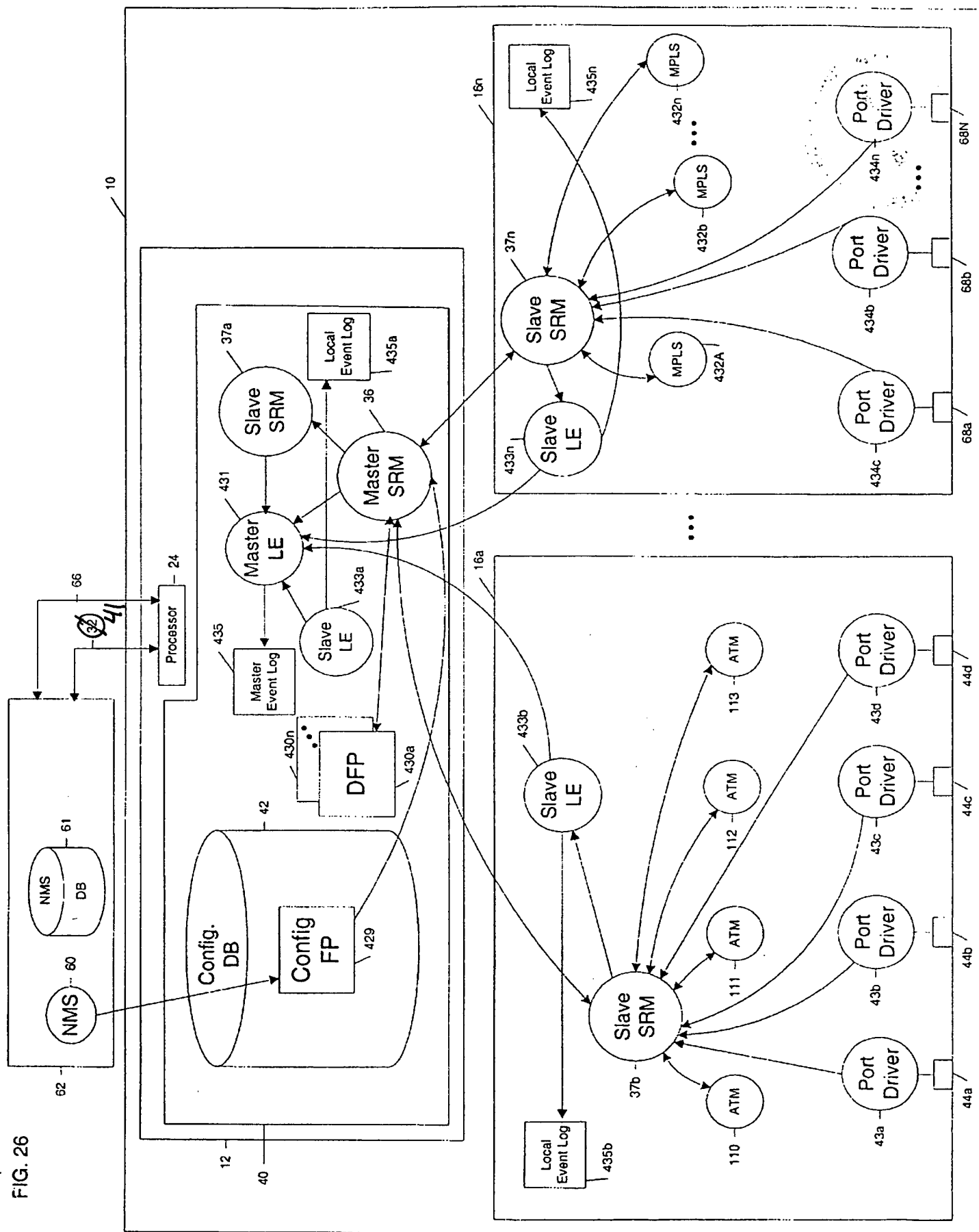


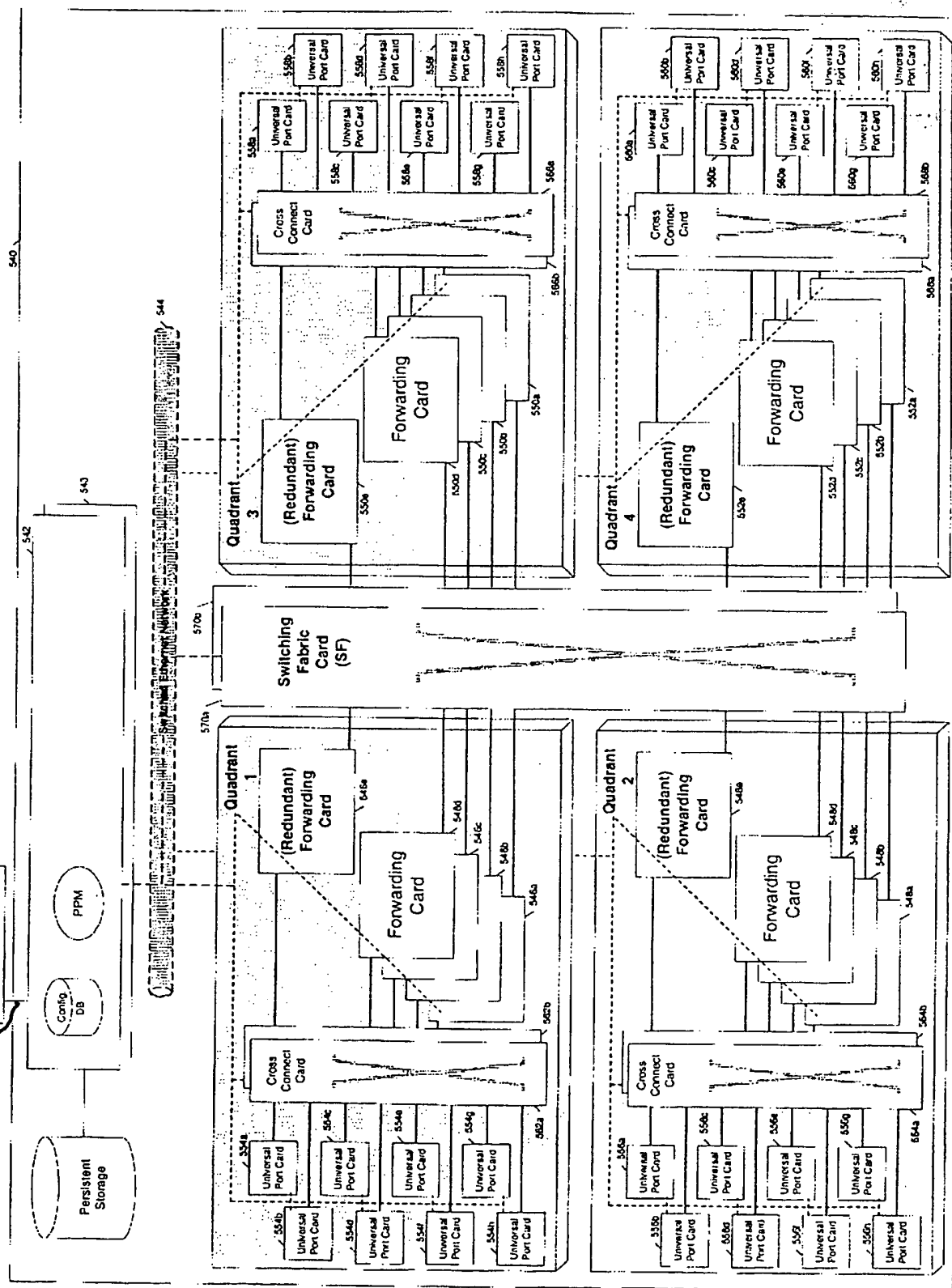
FIG. 26

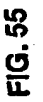


47

60 NMS

52





**FIG. 55**

configuration database and NMS database are downloaded and upgraded (as described below) without re-booting the computer system.

#### Network Management System (NMS):

5 Referring to Fig. 9a, as described above, a user / network administrator of computer system 10 works with network management system (NMS) software 60 to configure computer system 10. In the embodiment described below, NMS 60 runs on a personal computer or workstation 62 and communicates with central processor 12 over Ethernet network ~~62~~<sup>41</sup> (out-of-band). Instead, the NMS may communicate with central processor 12 over data path 34 (Fig. 1, in-band). Alternatively (or in addition as a back-up communication port), a user may communicate with computer system 10 through a console interface / terminal (840, Fig. 2a) connected to a serial line 66 connecting to the data or control path using a command line interface (CLI) protocol. Instead, NMS 60 could run directly on computer system 10 provided computer system 10 has an input  
15 mechanism for the user.

During installation, an NMS database 61 is established on, for example, work-station 62 using a DDL executable file corresponding to the NMS database. The DDL file may be downloaded from persistent storage 21 in computer system 10 or supplied separately with  
20 other NMS programs as part of an NMS installation kit. The NMS database mirrors the configuration database through an active query feature (described below). In one embodiment, the NMS database is an Oracle database from Oracle Corporation in Boston, Massachusetts.

25 The NMS and central processor 12 pass control and data over Ethernet ~~62~~<sup>41</sup> using, for example, the Java Database Connectivity (JDBC) protocol. Use of the JDBC protocol allows the NMS to communicate with the configuration database in the same manner that it communicates with its own internal storage mechanisms, including the NMS database. Changes made to the configuration database are passed to the NMS database to ensure  
30 that both databases store the same data. This synchronization process is much more efficient, less error-prone and timely than older methods that require the NMS to